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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

# BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including report of the

## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1970

AUGUST 1971

R

BRIDGEFOOT HOUSE,  
BUNTINGFORD, HERTS.



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BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1970.

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1970.

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT.

P R E F A C E.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Rural District Council for the year ended 31st December 1970.

The population figures for the Area continue to rise, with a total figure of 11,630, showing an increase of 360 over last year's figures.

The general health of the District was again excellent and very few cases of infectious diseases were reported as having occurred during the year.

.....

Deaths.

The death returns for the year show that 7 men and 2 women died of Cancer of the Lung. Altogether there were 19 deaths due to Cancer, and Cancer of the Lung accounted for 10% of all male deaths. This is in line with national figures. There is no doubt that Cancer of the Lung is associated with heavy and prolonged cigarette smoking, and that a person who stops smoking reduces the risk of developing Cancer of the Lung, Coronary Heart Disease or Bronchitis.

There were four accidental deaths during 1970. It is not widely realised that accidental death is indeed preventable death, and that it is the commonest cause of death under 40 years of age in the country.

.....

Health Centre.

The Buntingford Health Centre and Group Practice Surgeries were opened officially on the 21st October 1970. This purpose built centre has already proved of great value to patients, doctors and their helpers.

Modern medicine is tending towards team work. There is no doubt that a Health Centre provides a pleasant atmosphere for consultation. Perhaps even more important, it provides a focal point where doctors and other members of the medical team can meet and discuss their problems. Without easy communication much medical effort can easily be wasted.

.....



Dr. Frizelle frequently mentioned how grateful he was to the staff of the Public Health Department for their work. I should like to add my personal thanks to Mr. Reed for the help and advice he has given to me, and to Miss Kent for the clerical work she has carried out during the year and in the preparation of the statistics for this report.

I am grateful to the other Chief Officers for their help, and thank the members of the Public Health Committee, the Council, and their Chairmen, for their continued interest in Public Health matters.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

JOHN EARLE.





PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H.  
Certificate of Radiological Protection.

Retired 31st October 1970.

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H. Acting Medical Officer of Health  
Acting Medical Officer of Health. from 1st November to 31st December  
1970. Then appointed M.O.H.  
on 1st January 1971.

Council Offices:

(East Herts. Combined Districts.)

Council Offices, High Street,  
Hoddesdon, Herts.

Telephone:

Office : Hoddesdon 68331.

Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health.

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., Ch.,  
D.P.H.  
Haileybury and Imperial Services College.

Telephone :

Sanatorium : Hoddesdon 62040  
Home : Hoddesdon 62614

Public Health Inspector.

P.E.L. Reed, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Duties In the Public Health

Department were carried out by Miss D. Kent.

Public Health Department:

Bridgefoot House,  
Buntingford, Herts.

Telephone:

Royston 71315

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Public Health Committee for the year 1970/71 was composed of the  
following Members :-

Chairman : Mr. E. W. Huson.

Vice-Chairman : Mr. H. Harvey.

Mr. A. Anderson  
Mrs. M. N. Avery  
Capt. C. G. E. Barclay  
Mr. H. C. Beddington  
Mrs. J. A. P. Boyd Carpenter

Mr. L. C. Holmans  
Mrs. G. M. Holmes  
Mr. L. C. Mason  
Mr. W. S. Pimblett  
Mr. C. J. Poulton.

Mr. J. Rowland  
Mr. R. Staniland  
Mr. S. E. Thody  
Mr. A. Vandone



S E C T I O N    "A".

TABLE 1.

(Figures for 1969 shown in brackets).

POPULATION.

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Braughing Rural District.

11,630                      (11,270)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres    ...    ...    ...    ...    ...    ...    45,570

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books.

4,016                      (3,857)

Number of Houses per acre    ...    ...    ...    ...    0.088

Number of persons per acre    ...    ...    ...    ...    0.255

Number of persons per house    ...    ...    ...    ...    2.896

Rateable Value of District.    £521,003

Sum Represented by a New Penny Rate    £5,171.

-----



# VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Braughing Rural</u> <u>District.</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales.</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.</u>			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	18.7	15.6	16.0
Area Comparability factor	1.14	0.94	1.00
Local adjusted rate	21.3	14.7	16.00
Ratio of local adjusted rate to National rate	1.33		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births.	1		8
<u>STILLBIRTH RATE.</u>			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births.	-	10.7	13
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES.</u>			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000	5	14.9	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births.	5	14.1	17
Deaths of Illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	27.3	26
.....			
Neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births.	5	10.7	12
.....			
Early neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	-	9.3	11
Perinatal mortality rate.			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths		20.0	23



# VITAL STATISTICS.

Local authority Area. England and  
Males. Females. Total. Wales. (Total).

Estimated mid-year home population. 11,630 48,826,000

Live Births	Total	114	104	218	784,482
	Legitimate	112	103	215	719,738
	Illegitimate	2	1	3	64,744

Stillbirths	Total	-	-	-	10,341
	Legitimate	-	-	-	9,297
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,044

Total live and stillbirths	Total	114	104	218	794,823
	Legitimate	112	103	215	729,035
	Illegitimate	2	1	3	65,788

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age.	Total	-	1	1	14,269
	Legitimate	-	1	1	12,592
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,677

Under 4 weeks of age.	Total	-	1	1	9,663
	Legitimate	-	1	1	8,548
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,115

Under 1 week of age.	Total	-	-	-	8,328
	Legitimate	-	-	-	7,343
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	985

Deaths - all ages.	68	64	132	575,208
--------------------	----	----	-----	---------





VITAL STATISTICS.

Continued.....

<u>Braughing Rural</u> <u>District.</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales.</u>
--	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

DEATH RATES ETC. - ALL AGES.

Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	11.3	9.6	11.7
Area comparability factor	.99	1.13	1.00
Local adjusted rate	11.2	10.8	11.7
Ratio of local adjusted rate to National rate	.96		1.00

---

MATERNAL DEATH RATE

Maternal Deaths including abortion	-		
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births.	-	0.06	

---



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) notified during year.

Disease	Total all ages for the year.	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Not Known
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	10	-	7	2	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-



INCIDENCE OF DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS.

	First Quarter			Second Quarter.			Third Quarter.			Fourth Quarter.		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	5	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



T U B E R C U L O S I S during 1970.

Tuberculosis New Cases only	Total all ages	Under 5 years	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Age not known
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meninges & C.N.S.-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<u>Tuberculosis</u> All Cases.		Total	Males		Females.	
			P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Cases on Register on 31st December, 1969		18	7	1	5	5
Cases added to Register	New cases	-	-	-	-	-
	Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
	Outward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Patients Cured.	-	-	-	-	-
Cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1970.		18	7	1	5	5





CAUSE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1970.

	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	68	64
Malignant Neoplasms - Stomach	-	1
- intestine	2	2
- larynx	1	0
- lung, bronchus	7	2
- breast	-	2
- prostate	1	-
Leukaemia	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	5
Diabetes Mellitus	-	2
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1
Other diseases of the Blood, etc.	1	-
Multiple Sclerosis	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	19	11
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	8	10
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	3
Influenza	1	2
Pneumonia	4	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	2
Asthma	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1
Other Disease of Digestive System	1	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All Other Accidents	1	2
(a) Still Births	-	-
(b) Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	-	1
(c) " " " " one year of age	-	1
(d) " " " " One week of age	-	-



## GENERAL STATISTICS.

The mid-year figures for the population of the District was 11,630 compared with the 1969 figure of 11,270. This gave an increase in population of 360, made up of a natural increase of 86 and an inward migration of 274.

The number of inhabited houses rose from 3,357 to 4,016, the number of houses per acre from 0.085 to 0.088, the number of persons per acre from 0.247 to 0.255, while the number of persons per house fell from 2.92 to 2.896.

## VITAL STATISTICS AND CAUSES OF DEATHS.

The number of live births continued to rise. The birth rate is 18.7 per thousand compared with 16 for England and Wales. There were no stillbirths, and no maternal deaths. Only one child died under the age of 4 weeks, due to a congenital abnormality.

In the year 68 men died, 7 of these were due to lung cancer, this figure is similar to the National average. In addition two women died of lung cancer. This means that out of the 19 deaths due to cancer, 9 were due to lung cancer. This is the commonest preventable cause of death.

Two people under twenty four died accidental deaths. In the small numbers of this District, these figures may seem insignificant. They do represent the fact that accidental death is the commonest cause of death under 40 on a National scale. Again, these are preventable deaths.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, few were reported. No major problems arose.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

There is no change in the number on the Tuberculosis Register.

## OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE.

There is no doubt that the Warden-assisted bungalows at Much Hadham and Buntingford are very beneficial to the inhabitants and much appreciated.



#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS. 1948 AND 1951.

These Acts are concerned with people who are seriously ill or extremely frail, who need hospital care, and who do not wish to go into hospital voluntarily.

During the year 1970, no action was taken under these Acts.

#### MEALS ON WHEELS.

These were served at Buntingford, Much Hadham, High Wych and Thorley.

#### BUILDING.

During the year 154 buildings were erected by private enterprise; 10 new houses were finished completing a development of 26 Council Houses at Little Hadham. 6 Bungalows were completed at Braughing.



## SECTION "B".

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT.

#### LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In an emergency medical specimens may be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford or the Herts. and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

#### COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES.

##### Immunisation and Vaccination.

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

<u>Approx. Age.</u>	<u>Vaccine.</u>
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES.
16 months	SMALLPOX
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus.
School entry (one month after other booster)	SMALLPOX re-vaccination
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS.

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.





## Immunisation & Vaccination (Continued).

As far as the routine immunisation of children is concerned, birth notification of children in the County has been processed by computer and in consequence it has been possible to send out an appointment for every child to attend a Clinic or its own Doctor for immunisations as they have become due. This scheme was introduced in East Herts. in January 1968.

It must be borne in mind that a traveller entering certain countries must produce an International Certificate of Vaccination against Smallpox, Yellow Fever and Cholera. International Certificates should be procured from the travel agency when the intending traveller makes his booking.

Vaccination is done by the patient's own Doctor, who must enter on the Certificate particulars of the vaccine employed. The Doctor's signature must then be authenticated at the local- not the County- Health Department, which holds facsimiles of all signatures of Doctors in the District.

On the other hand, immunisation against Yellow Fever must be carried out at one of the following Centres, after an appointment is first made by telephone :-

<u>Address.</u>	<u>Tel.No.</u>	<u>Time of Attendance.</u>
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, 4 St. Pancras Way, LONDON. N.W. 1.	01-387-4411 Ext.137.	Monday to Friday mornings.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service Medical Dept., Unilever House, Blackfriars, LONDON. E. C. 4.	01-353-7474 Ext.2841	Tuesday and Friday 3.45 p.m.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, 53 Great Cumberland Place, LONDON. W.1.	01-262-6456	Monday to Friday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Protection against Cholera may be obtained from the traveller's own Doctor and is advisable for persons undertaking journeys in the Middle or Far East. Advice may be obtained from the Embassy or Mission of the Country concerned.

Smallpox has an incubation period of 14 days. Protection becomes valid 8 days after vaccination and lasts for three years.

Yellow Fever has an incubation period of 6 days. Protection becomes valid 10 days after immunisation and lasts ten years.



### Immunisation and Vaccination (Continued).

Cholera has an incubation period of 5 days. Protection becomes valid 6 days after immunisation and lasts for six months.

Typhoid Fever is endemic in some countries and may be contracted by travellers in mediterranean areas. I would here reiterate the advice given in previous Annual Reports that anyone proposing to spend holidays in such regions ought, for their own sakes and for the sake of others, to seek protection from T.A.B. Immunisation. This should not be left to the last moment, as the interval between the first and second doses should be at least four weeks and preferably six weeks, because of the delay in building up effective immunity.

### Home Help Service.

In April 1971 the Administration of the Home Help Service passed to the Director of Social Services. This, in fact, means that the Local Organiser remains the same.

Applications for this Service should be made to Mrs. J. E. Clements, the Divisional Home Help Organiser, at the Health Centre, 27 Bull Plain, Hertford. (Telephone No. Hertford 3232).

The Home Help Service is constantly needing more help. Any person anxious to be of assistance to either old and infirm people or young mothers with children, should apply to Mrs. Clements.



## SOCIAL SERVICES.

With the coming into force of the Local Authority Social Services Act on 1st April 1971, statutory responsibility for providing services and social work help to the physically handicapped, the elderly, the mentally handicapped and the mentally ill, as well as the responsibility for the child care and family case work service, passed to the newly formed Social Services Department.

The Divisional Social Services Officer is :-

Miss M. Copleston, 1 Queens Road, Hertford. Tel: Hertford 2294.

It is hoped that in the course of the current year, generic Social work teams will be established in each of the main centres of population in the Division but at the present time the various aspects of the service are being dealt with as follows:-

### Child Care and Family Problems, including homelessness.

Social Services Office, 1, Queens Road, Hertford.  
Tel: Hertford 2294.

### Physically Handicapped, Blind, including advice on adaptations and aids.

Social Services Office, Westfield, West Street, Hertford.  
Tel: Hertford 7041.

### Mentally Ill, Mentally Handicapped, Elderly etc.

Hertford Borough	}	Social Services Office, Westfield, West Street, Hertford.  Tel: Hertford 7041
Hertford R.D.C.		
Hoddesdon U.D.C.		
Ware R.D.C.		
Ware U.D.C.		
Bishop's Stortford U.D.C.	}	Social Services Office, Health Centre, Bishop's Stortford. Tel: Bishop's Stortford 2743
Braughing R.D.C.		
Sawbridgeworth U.D.C.		
Cheshunt U.D.C.	}	Social Services Office, Chestnuts Day Centre, Cheshunt. Tel: Waltham Cross 20905 and 27330.

All emergency calls concerning the elderly and mentally ill should be directed to the Social Services Office, Westfield, West Street, Hertford, where they will be dealt with by the Social Worker on duty for the day irrespective of area.



## HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The Area is served chiefly by the County Hospital, Hertford, the Herts. and Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford and the Lister Hospital, Hitchin.

Chronic sick and elderly can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware. The hospital section deals mainly with geriatric patients, the number of beds available is :-

69 for females, of which 47 are for psycho-geriatric patients.  
22 for males.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated either at St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham (Tel: No. 01-800-0121 ) or Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London. N. 21 (formerly South Lodge Hospital, World's End Lane, London N. 21. (Tel: No. 360 8151) ).

## GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

Braughing Rural District is served by 6 General Practitioners, all of whom work in partnerships. To these are attached 4 Health Visitors/District Nurses/Midwives, and one Nurse, a scheme which has been in operation some years. The attachments are proving very successful.

## DENTAL SERVICE.

There is one Dental Surgeon in practice in Buntingford. The District is also served by Dental Surgeons in adjoining localities.

## OTHER SERVICES.

There is a Club for Old People at Buntingford, and also at Braughing and Much Hadham.

Women's Institutes are active at 15 centres in the District.

A Voluntary Organisation called BASH (Buntingford Action for Social Help) was formed in October 1970 to combine a number of existing voluntary organisations :-

St. Peter's Adults  
St. Peter's Togs  
Ward Freeman School and  
Buntingford Youth Club

Its Committee include the Medical Profession and a wide range of people of the community whose aims are to visit and aid the old and to help with shopping, house decorating etc. and to provide transport where needed. It provides regular play-groups for Mothers and young children and a weekly coffee morning.





### CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Medical Loan Depots have been established at Braughing, Buntingford and Much Hadham. A charge may be made for both of the services.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford, Buntingford, Bishop's Stortford and at Ware. Except in an emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

### DAY NURSERIES.

There are no Day Nurseries in the Braughing Rural District. There are two part-time Nursery Schools in Buntingford, one at the Ward Freeman School, a service provided by the school Staff and pupils as extra curricula activities one morning a week, and also one at the Congregational Church Schoolroom.

There is a Play-Group at Cottered.



S E C T I O N   "C".  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA  
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.  
FOR THE YEAR 1970.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1970.

In the following pages of the Report I have outlined the work done and given a resumé of the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. Section "D" contains the Statistical Returns concerning the Factories Acts.

P. E. L. REED.

M.A.P.H.I.   M.R.S.H.



## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1970.

Total inspections recorded	1340
----------------------------	------

### Housing.

Housing inspections	46
Housing re-visits	134
Tenancy selection	245
Housing Welfare	99

### Food and Food Premises.

Premises inspected, including re-visits	104
Licensed premises inspected	12
Meat inspections	127
Slaughterhouse inspections	5
Unsound Food	23
Imported Food Regulations	5

### Water Supply.

Inspections and sampling visits	166
---------------------------------	-----

### Infectious Diseases.

Visits and investigations	15
---------------------------	----

### General Sanitation.

Complaints	85
Drainage	86
Caravans	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.	18
Factories	11
Pest Control	49
Petroleum Act	32
Night Soil Collection	35
Animal Boarding Establishments	6
Sanitary Conveniences	36



## HOUSING.

### New Building.

During 1970 houses built by Private Enterprise totalled 154.

### Council Housing.

Construction of ten houses at Little Hadham was finished during the year, completing the new development of 26 houses commenced in 1969. Three bungalows were also completed in Little Hadham.

At Braughing six bungalows were completed and work started on eight flats at Cottered and twelve at Much Hadham.

Negotiations continued regarding the proposed 36 flats at Buntingford and agreement was reached for the purchase of land for erection of six bungalows at Anstey.

Following the submission of a detailed analysis of current applications for housing and consideration of the then programme for building Council housing accommodation a further provisional programme was agreed, the actual numbers of units of accommodation may vary depending upon availability of suitable sites etc. This programme is as follows :-

Aspenden	4units of small accommodation.
Braughing	20 Warden serviced units of small accommodation.
Buckland	6 units of small accommodation.
Buntingford	48 Houses (including 24 for public service requirements.)
Westmill	4 units of small accommodation.
Albury	} 8 houses
Little Hadham	
Much Hadham	
	24 units of small accommodation.

### Unfit Houses.

A further five houses were Represented to the Council during the year.

Good progress was made in clearing the backlog of people living in condemned houses and mainly as a result of completion of new accommodation it was possible to re-house eight such cases.





### Improvement and Standard Grants.

This potentially important aspect of improving the standard of the cottage properties in the Area continued to be dealt with by the Surveyor and his staff.

During the year a total of 31 applications were received and 19 Improvement (Discretionary) and 12 Standard Grants were approved, involving 33 dwellings.

### Allocation of Council Housing Accommodation.

The Waiting Lists of Applications for Council accommodation continued to be maintained by the Public Health Department. Inspections are made to ascertain the Housing needs of applicants so that full information is available to the Estates Committee, who select tenants as tenancies become available.

Investigations made during the year emphasised the under-occupation of many of the Council's houses and it is apparent that the building of one or two bedroomed units and the transfer of existing tenants to them will, in most parishes, provide a most useful contribution towards meeting the needs of the more urgent applications on the lists. The programme of providing this accommodation is referred to on the previous page.

### Warden-controlled Bungalows.

At Buntingford and Much Hadham the Council have small groups of bungalows and at each of these two sites there is a resident Warden. During the year a new Warden was appointed at Much Hadham and close liason with both Wardens continued.

There is no doubt that the availability of the Warden to answer Emergency Bell calls and the day to day help given with shopping, phone calls, fetching medicines etc. is appreciated by the tenants and it is pleasing to note that at both sites the Wardens have arranged regular Social gatherings for those who wish to take part.



### FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

Detailed inspections and re-visits continued following my efforts in 1969 to bring occupiers attention to the Food Hygiene Regulations. Co-operation was generally good and an improvement in the standard of several premises was noted.

The table below shows progress made, in no case was prosecution necessary.

Premises in District	Inspections made (1970)	Contraventions found since 1.1.69.	Items remedied by 31.12.70.
49	104	126	91

As required by the Department of Health and Social Security premises in different categories are tabulated below :-

Bakehouses	2
Bakers & Cake Shops	1
Butchers	6
Cafes	3
Distribution Depots	2
Grocers	24
Greengrocers	3
Sweets & Confectioners	6
	<u>47</u>

Routine inspections are made of Messrs. J. Sainsbury's Depot at Buntingford. The Management are co-operative and anxious to ensure that their premises and food handled in them maintain a consistently high standard. However, a number of items have come to light as needing attention and as a result of my inspections and discussions improvements have been achieved.

#### Licensed Premises.

No premises were closed during the year, the total for the District remaining at 40. Following a comprehensive survey by my predecessor sub-standard houses were listed and during 1970 the two remaining on this list were dealt with by comprehensive rebuilding and reconditioning.



### Meat Inspection.

There are two slaughterhouses in the District and all animals slaughtered in them are inspected.

	Cattle (not Cows)	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Animals killed	170	803	15	1
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	29	25	1	1

No carcase or part thereof was condemned for tuberculosis.

No cases of cysticercosis were found.

A sum of £41.93 was recovered from slaughterhouse operators by way of charges for meat inspection.

### Unsound Food.

The following was surrendered voluntarily as unfit for human consumption.

	Tons.	Cwt.	Lbs.
Meat at Distribution Depot		12	77
Offal at Slaughterhouses		6	42
Canned Meats	2	4	3
	3	3	10



### WATER SUPPLY.

The Mains water supply in the District is provided by the Leo Valley Water Company. During the year the Company reported that 254 bacteriological and 9 chemical water samples were taken from within the District and all of these were satisfactory.

There are 44 wells in use in the District and they supply 104 houses.

Routine bacteriological samples of these well supplies are undertaken and 56 samples gave satisfactory results whilst 43 were unsatisfactory.

Most unsatisfactory results were attributable to storage tanks that were in need of thorough cleansing and sterilisation but there are a few supplies (mostly shallow wells) which are liable to yield poor results at any time and in these cases the users of the water are advised to always boil it before drinking and preparing uncooked foodstuffs etc.

Type of water supply 31.12.70.

Parish	Houses supplied from mains	Wells in use.	Houses supplied from wells.
Albury	174	-	-
Anstey	102	4	5
Ardeley	132	3	6
Aspenden	73	1	1
Braughing	361	5	22
Brent Pelham	60	-	-
Buckland	104	-	-
Buntingford	1277	2	2
Cottered	175	2	4
Furneux Pelham	147	1	5
High Wych	174	9	17
Hornead	217	-	-
Little Hadham	319	4	11
Meesdon	42	-	-
Much Hadham	564	4	13
Stocking Pelham	43	-	-
Thorley	97	2	2
Westmill	79	7	16
Wyddial	35	-	-
	4175	44	104





## GENERAL SANITATION.

### Complaints.

A total of 31 complaints were received and each was investigated. In 6 cases the complaints were unfounded or warranted no action and the two complaints unresolved from 1969 were resolved during 1970. All complaints were resolved by informal notice.

Summary of complaints dealt with :-

Animals kept unsatisfactorily	1
Accumulations of rubbish	3
Dampness	1
Dirty premises	1
Drainage defects	8
Food Complaints	2
Housing Defects	2
Noise	1
Rodents & other pests	1
Smoke and effluvia	5

### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

There are 40 premises registered under this Act and 18 routine inspections were made. Upon registration an inspection is carried out and the owner notified of any contraventions found. During the course of routine visits 7 defects were noted but co-operation was generally good and no legal action was necessary to secure compliance with the Act.

### Pest Control.

This work is carried out by a private Contractor on behalf of the Council and matters referred to him were dealt with satisfactorily. Once more rat infestations were particularly heavy in the last quarter of the year; 108 reports of rats in and around domestic premises were received and 20 requests for eradication of mice were dealt with.



### Night Soil Collection.

Weekly collection continued to be made, by a Contractor, from 59 properties. This service included all unmodernised Council houses.

Few additional requests for the service have been received from private householders.

### Sewage Disposal.

Eleven of the nineteen parishes in the District are served by main sewerage and due to the national economic situation etc., no further schemes were undertaken for the remaining small parishes during the year.

Cesspools are emptied free of charge twice per year where the main sewer is not available to residential properties.

### Refuse Collection.

A weekly collection of house refuse is made and this service is organised by the Council's Surveyor.

Tipping of refuse from this Area and Bishop's Stortford Urban District is carried out at Hadham Towers, Much Hadham. This tip is controlled by Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council and refuse from the Braughing Rural District is disposed of there by agreement.

### Animal Boarding Establishments.

There are 6 premises in the District registered under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963, for the boarding of dogs and cats. Each of the premises registered was inspected and found to be satisfactory.



S E C T I O N     "D".

FACTORIES ACTS     -     SUMMARY OF RETURNS.  
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.  
FOR THE YEAR 1970.



FACTORIES ACT - 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which S.1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	27	11	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding out-workers premises.)	-	-	-	-
	31	11	-	-





FACTORIES ACT - 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 1961

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.5.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a)					
Insufficient (b)	-	1	-	1	-
Unsuitable or defective (c)	1	1	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers).	-	-	-	-	-
	2	3	-	2	-



PART V111 OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

Sections 133 and 134.

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecut- tions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in un- whole- some premises.	Not- ices served	Pro- secut- ions
Furniture and Upholstery	1	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing Apparel	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	-	-	-	-	-





